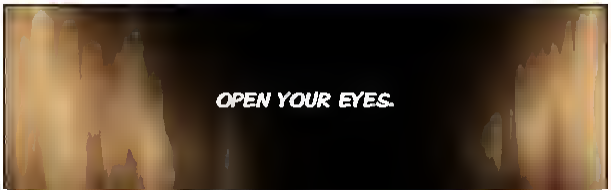
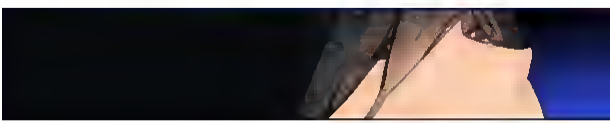
catharsis

By Ahmki

ZZZZ....
ZZ...

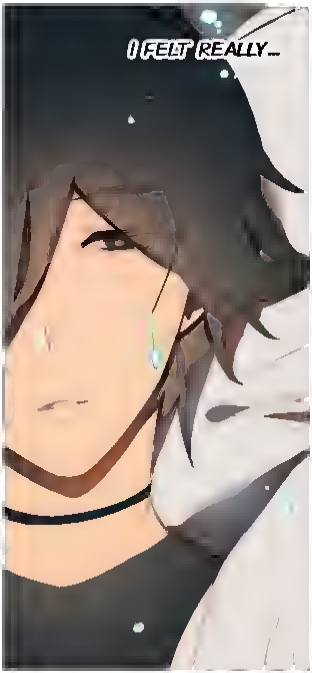
...


OPEN YOUR EYES.

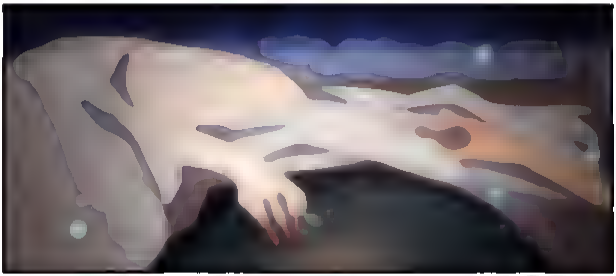


I FEEL LIKE...

I FEEL LIKE I'M JUST WAKING UP FROM A REALLY NICE DREAM..



...WARM.



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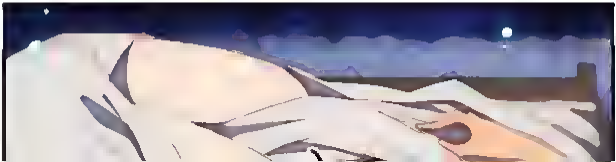


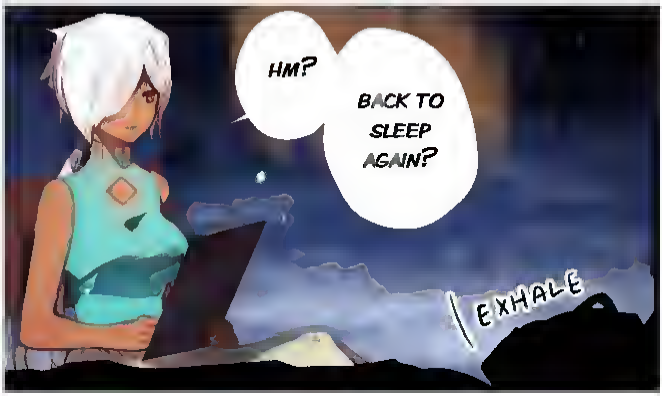
AMI?

AH...
I'M STILL TOO DROWSY
TO SEE PROPERLY.

JUST LET ME REST MY EYES
FOR A LITTLE LONGER.

PLEASE... STILL BE HERE WHEN I
WAKE UP.

AMI...


HM?
BACK TO SLEEP AGAIN?
EXHALE

!

STILL ASLEEP, HUH?

SCRIBBLE-- SCRIBBLE--

TUP
TUP
IT'S 0143 REAL TIME RIGHT NOW.
YOU STARTLED ME, HARVEY.
I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN.
OOPS. SORRY, SORRY.

IT'S UNLIKE YOU TO BE STARTLED SO EASILY THOUGH. GOT SOMETHING EATING AWAY AT YOUR MIND?
HA....

YES...

SOME "THING" INDEED.

SO, HARVEY, YOU

GOT ANY MORE INFORMATION ON "HER" ?

I CAN'T SEEM TO WRAP MY MIND AROUND THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT CAN HAPPEN. BUT I ONLY KNOW SO MUCH...

TO THINK THAT TIMOREM COULD BE BINDED TO BECOME... FORTITUDE.

GLOSE--
PAIN!
THROB--
THROB--
ACK!
WOAH! YOU OK?

NO, NO.
I'M FINE.
WELL...
I'VE BEEN
BETTER.

SHE GOT THE
OFFICIAL
APPROVAL TO
SERVE AS LEON'S
FORTITUDE--

I DID COME BACK
WITH THE
APPROVAL FROM
BIG BOSS THAT
"SHE" IS
CURRENTLY

SINCE HE'S ALREADY GONE THROUGH THE OFFICIAL RITE OF OBTAINMENT.

NOT A THREAT

HE ACKNOWLEDGED HER.

HE NAMED HER.

AND SHE TOOK ON A CLEAR FORM.

As much as we wanted to do something about it...

PARIS WITNESSED A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE TWO.

ANY DAMAGE WE INFLICTED ON HER, LEON WOULD RECEIVE AS WELL. WE COULDN'T PUT HIS BODY IN JEOPARDY, SO WE HAD TO EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS AND LENIENT ON HER.

OUR HANDS ARE TIED.

I SEE...
...SO THAT'S WHY THEY WERE BOTH ADMITTED TO ME, TOGETHER.

NOD
NOD

...

How extraordinarily peculiar.